Is a Gathering with Only Programs and Socializing Enough?

Do you attend a gathering that consists only of worship programs and a few social activities?

 Answer: Yes (incorrect) — Explanation: Attending a church that offers only formal worship and social activities, without life in Christ, means:

• Being satisfied with a form of godliness but without its power (2 Timothy 3:5), that is, a superficial religion, lacking inner transformation.

• Avoiding spiritual responsibility, real fellowship, and confrontation with sin—essential elements of a born-again life.

• Turning the church into a place of emotional comfort rather than a place of edification, maturation, and spiritual ministry. This choice contradicts the clear teaching of Scripture about the Body of Christ.

In 1 Corinthians 12:25, Scripture says, "So that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another." Therefore, each member is called to be active, closely connected, and to contribute to the building up of others. To live in isolation or superficially is to have no living connection with the members of the Body, which is incompatible with the work of the Holy Spirit.

A gathering without genuine fellowship, in which the members do not care for one another, does not reflect the living Body of Christ, but only a powerless imitation—a lifeless religious community in which Christ is not truly recognized and followed. Such a body is, in reality, a dead body, in which Christ is not present as Head.

A gathering that is limited to outward forms cannot spiritually nourish a born-again soul, but only kills it spiritually. Being born again produces a real hunger for the Word, for living fellowship, and for a life lived in the light, in the Body of Christ.

A born-again Christian cannot live apart from the living Body of Christ. He is placed by God in the Body to have living fellowship, mutual responsibility, and growth in holiness. The lack of desire to be a member closely connected to the other members is a sign that the Holy Spirit is not truly working in that heart.

 Answer: No — Explanation: A born-again soul is not satisfied with a gathering that offers only worship programs and social activities, but longs for a living community where Christ is present and active, and His Body functions in unity and love.

This deep desire is a sign of a sensitive conscience and a life transformed by the Holy Spirit, because:

• In Ephesians 4:16, we are told that the Body of Christ is "joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped," and growth comes "through the working of each part in its proper measure."

• In 1 Corinthians 12:25-27, Scripture says, “the members should care for one another” and that “you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a member of it.”

If you are in a living body, where there are spiritual parents, infants, children, and young people in Christ—as John describes in 1 John 2—and where the members care for one another, rebuke one another in love, build one another up, and mature together, this is a sign that the new birth may be genuine.

A born-again Christian is where there is:

• Authentic brotherly fellowship, not just physical presence.

• Discipleship, loving correction, submission, and mutual service.

• Sanctification and spiritual maturity, not just emotional comfort or social activities.

This post is an excerpt from the booklet “Are You Truly Born Again? – Biblical Questionnaire”, which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.